

Exhibit A

FRIENDS OF GEORGE'S, INC.,

VS.

MULROY, et al.

30(b)(6)

VANESSA RODLEY

April 24, 2023



VETERAN COURT REPORTING
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
WESTERN DIVISION

FRIENDS OF GEORGE'S, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 2:23-CV-02163-tmp
Case No. 2:23-CV-02176-tmp

STEVEN J. MULROY, in his
individual capacity,

Defendant.

and

STATE OF TENNESSEE,

Defendant-Intervenor

30(b)(6) Deposition of:

VANESSA RODLEY

Taken on behalf of the
Defendant-Intervenor, via Zoom,
April 24, 2023

Veteran Court Reporting
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2

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35 Also present:

36 SARA MCKINNEY
37
38

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4	Examination By Mr. Wilson					
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9	E	X	H	I	B	I
10	T	S				
11						
12	Exhibit No. 1 Notice of Deposition					
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14	Exhibit No. 2 List of events for Friends of George's					
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2 S T I P U L A T I O N S
3

4 The 30(b)(6) deposition of VANESSA RODLEY
5 was taken by counsel for the Defendant-Intervenor,
6 by Notice, via Zoom, on April 24, 2023, for all
7 purposes under the Federal Rules of Civil
8 Procedure.

9 All formalities as to caption, notice,
10 statement of appearance, et cetera, are waived.
11 All objections, except as to the form of the
12 question, are reserved to the hearing, and that
13 said deposition may be read and used in evidence in
14 said cause of action in any trial thereon or any
15 proceeding herein.

16 It is agreed that D. ROCHELLE KOENES,
17 Notary Public and Licensed Court Reporter, for the
18 State of Tennessee, may swear the witness, and that
19 the reading and signing of the completed deposition
20 by the witness were not discussed.

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* * *

2 MR. TIMMONS: Before we get started, I
3 would like to put a running objection on the record,
4 if you don't mind.

5 MR. WILSON: Okay.

6 MR. TIMMONS: So to the extent that this
7 discovery is intended to address issues of standing,
8 we object on the basis that we don't think the State
9 of Tennessee, in its role as defending the
10 Constitutionality of the statute, has a basis to
11 raise standing. But, obviously, we're going to go
12 ahead and let you proceed and take your discovery
13 deposition.

14 We also intend to seek a protective
15 order as to that issue, and I want to go ahead and
16 consult about that. I'm assuming you guys are
17 going to oppose that and that we probably can't
18 reach a compromise. But, you know, we have an
19 obligation to consult, so I would like to go ahead
20 and get that out of the way.

21 MR. WILSON: I guess the -- probably,
22 but let us think about it first and discuss, since
23 you just brought it to our attention here at 9:00
24 o'clock.

25 MR. TIMMONS: Of course. Of course. I

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1 don't intend to file it today. I just wanted to
2 raise the issue. Since we have such a compressed
3 time frame, I wanted to go ahead and knock it out.

4 MR. WILSON: Okay.

5 MR. TIMMONS: Thank you, Robert.

6 MR. WILSON: All right. Thank you,
7 Brice.

8 MR. TIMMONS: Have at it.

9 * * *

10 MS. VANESSA RODLEY

11 was called as a witness and, after having been duly
12 sworn, testified as follows:

13

14 EXAMINATION

15 QUESTIONS BY MR. WILSON:

16 Q. Ma'am, could you please state your name for
17 the record.

18 A. Sure. My full name is Vanessa Danielle Noel
19 Rodley.

20 Q. Ms. Rodley, my name is Robert Wilson, and I'm
21 with the Tennessee Attorney General's office and I
22 represent the State of Tennessee in this matter.

23 Do you understand that you're here today
24 regarding Rule 30(b) (6) deposition for plaintiff,
25 Friends of George's?

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1 other organization? 09:13:09
2 A. No, sir. 09:13:10
3 Q. And you mentioned that Friends of George's is 09:13:20
4 a not profit -- or nonprofit. Does that mean it 09:13:22
5 doesn't have any shareholders? 09:13:25
6 A. That is correct. It is a nonprofit. 09:13:28
7 Q. Does Friends of George's share any ownership 09:13:39
8 responsibilities with any other business entities? 09:13:43
9 A. No, sir. 09:13:45
10 Q. And where is Friends of George's based? 09:13:49
11 A. Based here in Memphis, Tennessee. 09:13:54
12 Q. What's its address? 09:14:00
13 A. Well, we operate out of 1705 Poplar Avenue, 09:14:02
14 which is the Evergreen Theater. 09:14:05
15 Q. And who-all was involved with the formation 09:14:19
16 of Friends of George's? 09:14:22
17 A. Founding board member -- founding member 09:14:26
18 Tracy Love is the person who organized and founded 09:14:29
19 everything. He's no longer on our board. There are 09:14:33
20 several people who founded that are no longer. The 09:14:36
21 only current board member that was on the original 09:14:39
22 board would be Bill Zachary. 09:14:43
23 Q. What is your role in Friends of George's? 09:14:52
24 A. My role fluctuates all the time based on 09:14:56
25 need, but I am a board member at large. I run back 09:14:59

1	A.	Yeah. I served for Mid-South Pride since	09:21:59
2		2012.	09:22:03
3	Q.	And what is your role with Mid-South Pride?	09:22:08
4	A.	It's changed over this long amount of time,	09:22:11
5		but I'm currently president.	09:22:13
6	Q.	And what year did you become president of	09:22:26
7		Mid-South Pride?	09:22:30
8	A.	Oh, God. I think 2016 or 2017.	09:22:31
9	Q.	Is Mid-South Pride affiliated with Friends of	09:22:51
10		George's?	09:22:56
11	A.	No. They've got no connection.	09:22:58
12	Q.	Ms. Rodley, other than Friends of George's,	09:23:07
13		do you serve with any other theater group?	09:23:08
14	A.	No.	09:23:11
15	Q.	Ms. Rodley, I would like to turn a little bit	09:23:34
16		about, I guess, how Friends of George's operates.	09:23:37
17		You've mentioned that they are a theater company.	09:23:43
18		Do they charge admission for shows?	09:23:45
19	A.	Yes, we do. We charge a ticket admission.	09:23:49
20	Q.	And how much are the tickets normally?	09:23:52
21	A.	\$27.	09:23:53
22	Q.	Does the ticket price ever fluctuate?	09:23:57
23	A.	It goes with the times and cost of living. I	09:24:01
24		believe it started at -- I think at 20 bucks back	09:24:04
25		when it first started, but it's gone up as costs and	09:24:08

1 inflation. Right? 09:24:12

2 Q. Is the ticket price something that Friends of 09:24:14

3 George's itself sets? 09:24:21

4 A. Yes. 09:24:24

5 Q. And where does Friends of George's normally 09:24:34

6 conduct its performances? 09:24:39

7 A. At Evergreen Theater. 09:24:41

8 Q. Does Friends of George's conduct their 09:24:45

9 performances in any other venue? 09:24:48

10 A. Sometimes. It just really depends. 09:24:53

11 Evergreen is our home theater, but sometimes we will 09:24:55

12 do pop-up events or things of us that are requested 09:24:59

13 outside of that. But we do have three shows every 09:25:02

14 year at the Evergreen Theater. 09:25:06

15 Q. About how often does Friends of George's 09:25:19

16 perform one of those pop-up shows that you 09:25:24

17 mentioned? 09:25:26

18 A. I would say it's probably on average of once 09:25:27

19 or twice a year. The Horseshoe Casino has invited 09:25:30

20 us the last two years to do a show a year. 09:25:36

21 Q. Is there any other venues that come to mind? 09:25:44

22 A. Nothing that we've done in the last four or 09:25:47

23 five years. It was COVID, so we really didn't do 09:25:50

24 much. 09:25:54

25 Q. And does Friends of George's, if they go to 09:26:12

1 another venue, say the Horseshoe Casino, do they
2 still charge the same admission price?

09:26:16

3 A. No. Usually that is determined with the
4 partner that we are working with. So in that case,
5 Horseshoe Casino sets the price, I believe, or we
6 work with them and set the price.

09:26:22

09:26:24

09:26:26

09:26:32

7 Q. And going back to Evergreen Theater, does
8 Friends of George's, for their tickets, is there a
9 general admission or seating classification?

09:26:44

09:26:47

09:26:49

10 A. In this show, we did something new where we
11 did reserve seat, which we call VIP, because it's
12 free seating at our shows. So for this show, we did
13 one row where we did reserve, and we charged a
14 different price. But besides that, no, it's general
15 admission.

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09:27:12

16 Q. And when you say "this show," what is the
17 show?

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18 A. So we did Drag Rocks, Dragnificent Drag
19 Rocks. We have a variety show that we call
20 Dragnificent that we do every year, and the theme of
21 it changes. The theme this year was rock and roll,
22 so we did Drag Rocks this year, and we did six shows
23 for this production.

09:27:19

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24 Q. And for the reserved seating for Drag Rocks,
25 what was the price charge for that?

09:27:46

09:27:51

1 Do you see that?

09:57:54

2 A. Yes.

09:57:55

3 Q. And this is one of those, I guess, that you
4 were getting at earlier. Does Friends of George's
5 only produce drag-centric performances?

09:57:56

6 A. Yeah. Pretty much. I mean, the drag is a
7 part of everything we do.

09:58:08

8 MR. WILSON: Ms. Rochelle, let's go
9 ahead and make the complaint the next-numbered
-0 exhibit.

09:58:14

(WHEREUPON, the above-mentioned
document was marked as Exhibit Number 3.)

3 BY MR. WILSON:

-4 Q. And then, Ms. Rodley, is this the -- just for
-5 Exhibit 3 -- is this the complaint that was filed
-6 against District Attorney Steven Mulroy?

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7 A. Yes, sir.

09:58:47

18 Q. Referring back to paragraph 5, where it says,
19 "Drag-centric performances, comedy sketches, and
20 plays," is there a distinction between performances,
21 comedy sketches, and plays?

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22 A. Not really. They are all pretty much
23 performances. They are just different types of --
24 guess different types of performances. But, I mean
25 that's what we do.

09:59:06

1 Q. I guess for -- is there -- for Friends of 09:59:21
2 George's performances, is there one that's more, I 09:59:26
3 guess, comedy sketch versus the three of those or is 09:59:29
4 it they are all just kind of rolled in? 09:59:34

5 A. No. I mean, comedy is what we are. We -- 09:59:37
6 you know, I mean we will do dramatics, right, but 09:59:41
7 comedy is kind of where our home is. And so 09:59:45
8 everything we write, usually has got a funny 09:59:48
9 undertone to it. 09:59:53

10 Q. Going back to Friends of George's 10:00:14
11 performances at the Evergreen, is there a contract 10:00:16
12 between the Evergreen Theater and Friends of 10:00:19
13 George's? 10:00:20

14 A. Yes, sir. 10:00:21

15 Q. Do you know when Friends of George's entered 10:00:27
16 that contract? 10:00:28

17 A. Yes. We signed it a couple of months ago. 10:00:30
18 We sign it every year. 10:00:34

19 Q. Would it be fair to say that is a one-year 10:00:41
20 renewal contract? 10:00:44

21 A. Yeah. 10:00:47

22 Q. Is that contract with Evergreen Theater or 10:00:59
23 I've seen -- was it Downtown Dream Machine Theater 10:01:04
24 Works? 10:01:10

25 A. It's the same company, but yes. Theater 10:01:11

1 Works runs both the Theater Works theater and the 10:01:13
2 Theater Works Evergreen Theater. They've added 10:01:18
3 "Theater Works" to the Evergreen to make it part of 10:01:21
4 the same entity. 10:01:26

5 Q. And where is Theater Works theater? 10:01:27

6 A. That one is on the square, over there on 10:01:29
7 Overton Square. It's a big property of areas. It's 10:01:32
8 on a small street over there. I think on Florence. 10:01:37

9 Q. That's in Memphis? 10:01:41

10 A. Hm-hmm. Friends of George's, we've never 10:01:42
11 done a production at that theater. 10:01:45

12 Q. And when you said "hm-hmm," was that meant to 10:01:47
13 be a yes? 10:01:50

14 A. Yes. I'm sorry. Yes. 10:01:51

15 Q. Has Friends of George's, within Memphis, have 10:02:06
16 they conducted any of their performances in any 10:02:08
17 other theater in Memphis besides the Evergreen? 10:02:12

18 A. No. 10:02:15

19 Q. Does the contract between Evergreen Theater 10:02:32
20 or Theater Works and Friends of George's restrict 10:02:34
21 the type of performances that Friends of George's 10:02:38
22 can offer? 10:02:39

23 A. No. 10:02:43

24 Q. Does it have any restrictions as to where 10:02:49
25 Friends of George's can conduct its performances? 10:02:52

1 able to be produced for kids that can be
2 accompanied -- or minors to be accompanied by a
3 parent. Do you have a lot of minors that attend
4 Friends of George's productions?

5 A. I wouldn't say we have a lot. We do have
6 some parents who will bring some of their children
7 in. We -- as long as they are with a parent. I
8 mean, I run the front of the house now, so I'd say
9 maybe there would be a handful out of the whole
10 production. It's not a lot, but they are all, you
11 know, accompanied by their parent, and we have no
12 problem with that. We've not had any complaints
13 either.

14 Most parents will e-mail us and ask ahead of
15 time and say, Is it okay if we bring our child?
16 And we usually respond by saying, It's your right
17 to parent your child. If you think that this is an
18 okay venue, then that's a decision a parent's right
19 to make.

20 Q. Do you know if there's been a Friends of
21 George's production where, say, a parent has
22 e-mailed about asking if they can bring their child,
23 has Friends of George's ever said no or --

24 A. Oh, no. We've -- no, we've never said no.
25 So like I said, when, like, for example, we had two

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1 people e-mail us or message us for this show, our 10:09:23
2 response is always, you know, you're the parent. 10:09:26
3 You know your child better than we do. If this is 10:09:29
4 something that you think that your child would enjoy 10:09:33
5 and you want to bring them, that's up to you as a 10:09:35
6 parent. We've never told anyone no. 10:09:39

7 Q. Has Friends of George's ever put a parental 10:09:41
8 warning on any of its productions? 10:09:45

9 A. Uh-huh. 10:09:48

10 MR. GRIFFIN: Was that answer a no? 10:09:57

11 THE WITNESS: That's a no. 10:09:59

12 MR. GRIFFIN: Thank you. 10:10:00

13 BY MR. WILSON:

14 Q. And for Friends of George's at Evergreen 10:10:20
15 Theater, is alcohol served there? 10:10:21

16 A. Yes, sir. 10:10:26

17 Q. Is it -- do the audience members purchase it 10:10:26
18 by the drink or is there drink tickets? How does 10:10:38
19 that -- how does that -- 10:10:42

20 A. You know, it's typically just like at any 10:10:42
21 other theater. Just like a concession stand, you 10:10:44
22 walk up and get your drink or your soda or your 10:10:47
23 bottled water. 10:10:51

24 Q. Does Friends of George's sell drink tickets? 10:10:54

25 A. We do not sell drink tickets. 10:10:57

1 about before that the productions would be divided 10:13:03
2 into six shows. Is there one weekend that will 10:13:06
3 include the Thursday show and then another weekend 10:13:09
4 that will include a Sunday show? 10:13:11

5 A. That is correct. So we have to move out of 10:13:15
6 the theater on Sundays. 10:13:17

7 Q. Okay. 10:13:18

8 A. So the first week, we do a Thursday -- I'm 10:13:18
9 sorry -- the first week, we do a Friday, Saturday, 10:13:21
10 and a Sunday show. And then the second week, we do 10:13:22
11 a Thursday, Friday, and a Saturday show. And then 10:13:26
12 we move out of the theater that Sunday. 10:13:29

13 Q. Do you know if the Evergreen Theater has a 10:13:55
14 license to provide adult-oriented entertainment? 10:13:58

15 A. I do not know. 10:14:07

16 Q. Do you know if the Evergreen Theater has ever 10:14:08
17 applied for one? 10:14:10

18 A. I have no idea. 10:14:12

19 Q. Does Friends of George's have any future 10:14:25
20 performances scheduled at a venue other than the 10:14:27
21 Evergreen Theater? 10:14:29

22 A. No. 10:14:30

23 Q. Has Friends of George's ever produced an 10:14:46
24 outdoor production? 10:14:48

25 A. Outdoors as in outside? 10:14:51

1 Q. I should say conducted one of its 10:14:55
2 performances outside, outside of Evergreen. Just 10:14:57
3 outside in general, I guess. 10:15:00
4 A. I don't believe so. Uh-huh. We may have 10:15:04
5 attended things that were outside, but we have never 10:15:08
6 organized an outside event. 10:15:12
7 Q. Has Friends of George's ever conducted a 10:15:19
8 production on public property? 10:15:21
9 A. No. Uh-uh. 10:15:29
10 Q. Has Friends of George's ever conducted a 10:15:42
11 performance at an age-restricted venue? 10:15:44
12 A. I believe Horseshoe Casino. I believe many 10:15:50
13 upon many years ago -- I would have to look at this 10:15:57
14 list -- but some of these are bar locations where 10:16:00
15 we've done pop-ups, and those would be 10:16:04
16 age-restricted. 10:16:06
17 Q. Do you know about what years those were? 10:16:13
18 A. Yeah. If I look back at this list here. 10:16:15
19 Let's see. Let's see, the last one I can see here 10:16:19
20 would have been Goldie Dee's baby shower in 2019 at 10:16:29
21 Zebra Lounge. That's an 18-and-up location. So 10:16:34
22 it's been a long time. Before that, it was 2012. 10:16:40
23 Q. And do you know what the age restriction is 10:16:56
24 for the Horseshoe Casino? 10:16:59
25 A. I believe it's 18 and up. Gambling laws; 10:17:01

1 right? 10:17:06
2 Q. And where is the Horseshoe Casino located? 10:17:08
3 A. In Tunica, Mississippi. 10:17:11
4 Q. And when was the last time Friends of 10:17:26
5 George's did a production for the Horseshoe Casino? 10:17:28
6 A. Let's see here. We did one July of last 10:17:33
7 year. 10:17:39
8 Q. That would be July of 2022? 10:17:53
9 A. Yes, sir. 10:17:57
10 Q. What was the production? 10:17:58
11 A. Wet Hot Summer Drag. 10:17:59
12 Q. And would you consider that to be an R-rated 10:18:12
13 production? 10:18:15
14 A. It was probably close to R-rated. To be 10:18:17
15 honest, I wasn't part of most of that production. I 10:18:33
16 was up front selling tickets because that was right 10:18:37
17 after Pride. So -- 10:18:40
18 Q. When you say "After Pride," what are you -- 10:18:45
19 A. I wasn't involved in planning that or 10:18:48
20 organizing it because I was involved with organizing 10:18:50
21 and planning the Pride Festival last year. So I 10:18:54
22 don't know too much details of that show. I just 10:18:57
23 dealt with tickets. 10:18:59
24 Q. Just so I'm clear, when you say "Pride," is 10:19:02
25 that Mid-South Pride or -- 10:19:06

1 of those come to us personally, not necessarily to
2 the Friends of George's. So I will have to check
3 and see. I know I personally have not gotten any,
4 but other board members may have, so let me see what
5 we can collect for you.

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6 Q. And we discussed that Friends of George's has
7 conducted their productions at an age-restricted
8 venue. Do you know if Friends of George's has
9 conducted their performances at a licensed,
10 adult-oriented establishment?

10:26:41
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10:26:55

11 A. I don't believe so. I mean, that's not
12 something that -- first of all, how would I know
13 that bar or that location has registered or filed
14 for that? That would be really hard for me to tell
15 you whether they have or not. That's not something
16 normally people disclose when they ask you to come
17 to perform at your event, but I don't believe so.

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18 Q. Do you know if that's something members of
19 Friends of George's have asked an establishment if
20 they have a license?

10:27:25
10:27:27
10:27:30

21 A. I don't believe anyone has ever asked that.
22 To be honest, it's not something we think about
23 because it's not in what we do.

10:27:33
10:27:36
10:27:39

24 Q. And when you say, It's not something we do --
25 or I'm paraphrasing there -- is that because the

10:27:49
10:27:52

1 productions don't typically have those
2 adult-oriented entertainment elements?

10:27:57

3 A. Well, I mean, I'm not sure what your
4 definition of an adult establishment or what kind of
5 establishment would be because it's -- your opinion
6 on something could be very different than my opinion
7 on something. So it's very vague for me. I'm not
8 sure how to answer that.

10:28:02

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9 Q. So when I say adult-oriented entertainment
10 establishment, what would that mean to you?

10:28:23

10:28:27

11 A. A strip club. I would say no. If you're
12 talking about a strip club, we have never performed
13 in a strip club because that's not what we do.

10:28:31

10:28:34

10:28:38

14 Q. And do you know if Friends of George's has
15 ever applied for a license to provide adult-oriented
16 entertainment?

10:28:56

10:28:58

10:29:04

17 A. We have never.

10:29:05

18 Q. And we've discussed a little bit about
19 Friends of George's structure, say with board
20 members and different officers. What is Friends of
21 George's relationship with its performers?

10:29:18

10:29:20

10:29:22

10:29:24

22 A. Well, several of the board members are also
23 on the board. And then outside of that, we have a
24 lot of volunteers that perform for us.

10:29:29

10:29:31

10:29:33

25 Q. Are there performers that are on contract

10:29:40

1 right? Just for clarification; right. I just want 10:52:05
2 to make sure that I'm answering -- like you said in 10:52:08
3 the very beginning, the actual question you're 10:52:11
4 asking. 10:52:13

5 Q. So let me rephrase. 10:52:14

6 So would a typical Friends of George's show 10:52:16
7 be suitable for a person 13 years and under? 10:52:21

8 A. Well, that's, once again, based off of what 10:52:27
9 your opinion is what's suitable. And it's obviously 10:52:30
10 probably different than my opinion, because everyone 10:52:33
11 has different opinions. I would be okay if my child 10:52:35
12 was 13 or 14 coming to one of our productions. 10:52:38

13 Q. What about, say, six years old? 10:52:43

14 A. Yeah. It's -- once again, it's up to the 10:52:49
15 parent to decide on what is appropriate for their 10:52:55
16 child. 10:52:57

17 Q. Do Friends of George's shows typically 10:53:08
18 feature nudity? 10:53:10

19 A. Can you define nudity? 10:53:12

20 Q. Let's just say showing of the pubic area or 10:53:14
21 buttocks with less than full covering or breasts 10:53:18
22 with less than full covering? 10:53:22

23 A. No. Everything is covered or it's a satire; 10:53:24
24 right? It's fake. It's comedy. We like to poke 10:53:26
25 fun at things. But yeah, there is no visible 10:53:35

1 nudity, if that's your --

10:53:39

2 Q. Thank you, Ms. Rodley.

10:53:43

3 Does a Friends of George's -- a typical show
4 for Friends of George's feature human or male
5 genitals that are in a state of sexual stimulation
6 or arousal?

10:53:44

10:53:47

10:53:52

10:53:54

7 A. Can you explain to me what your definition of
8 "state of arousal" would be? Because I just want to
9 make sure I'm clear on this.

10:53:56

10:53:58

10:54:02

10 Q. Sure. Well, this is a first -- sure. Let's
11 just say that a male genital that's aroused.

10:54:04

10:54:07

12 A. That's aroused. I would say no. No. Once
13 again, there's nothing visible of that, so that's
14 real; right?

10:54:12

10:54:21

10:54:25

15 Q. And that's one example that I threw out
16 there. But just to be clear for, I guess, similar
17 examples, would your answer be the same, that
18 Friends of George's typical shows wouldn't include
19 those states of arousal?

10:54:28

10:54:31

10:54:34

10:54:38

20 A. Correct, sir. We don't have anything visible
21 with the state of arousal.

10:54:42

10:54:45

22 Q. And do typical shows for Friends of George's
23 feature descriptions of representations of
24 flagellation, torture, or physical restraint for the
25 purpose of sexual gratification?

10:54:59

10:55:00

10:55:00

10:55:04

1 A. Are you saying for the purpose of sexual 10:55:09
2 gratification? 10:55:12
3 Q. Yes. 10:55:13
4 A. No, sir. Nothing we do would be for purpose 10:55:14
5 of sexual gratification. 10:55:16
6 Q. Would there be another purpose? 10:55:17
7 A. Everything we do is -- our intent is to have 10:55:20
8 fun and have humor and to show, you know, all kinds 10:55:23
9 of different sides of things going on in our 10:55:29
10 community. 10:55:32
11 Q. Do typical shows for Friends of George's 10:55:41
12 feature representations or descriptions of sexual 10:55:42
13 intercourse, fellatio, cunnilingus, or sodomy? 10:55:43
14 A. Can you explain -- can you go into that? Say 10:55:49
15 that one more time. I want to make sure I got it. 10:55:51
16 Q. Do typical shows for Friends of George's 10:55:53
17 feature representations or descriptions of sexual 10:55:55
18 intercourse, fellatio, cunnilingus or sodomy? 10:55:58
19 A. I don't believe so. We may skirt around some 10:56:05
20 of those topics in a funny way, but we do not 10:56:08
21 simulate that stuff. 10:56:13
22 Q. And for those situations that you try to 10:56:33
23 skirt around, would you say that those 10:56:35
24 representations or descriptions are patently 10:56:36
25 offensive? 10:56:43

1 A. No. 10:56:43

2 MR. TIMMONS: Hey, Robert. We've been 10:56:45

3 going about two hours. Can we take a break? 10:56:46

4 MR. WILSON: Sure. Do you want to take 10:56:49

5 about a five-minute break? 10:56:49

6 MR. TIMMONS: Can we take ten? 10:56:50

7 MR. WILSON: Okay. Let's do it. Let's 10:56:51

8 say 11 -- let's just do 11:10. 10:56:53

9 MR. TIMMONS: Sound goods. Thanks. 10:56:58

10 MR. WILSON: We are off the record. 10:57:00

11 (Short break.)

12 MR. WILSON: Let's go back on the 11:10:08

13 record. And we've just taken about a ten-minute 11:10:09

14 break after Ms. Rodley answered one of our 11:10:12

15 questions. 11:10:16

16 BY MR. WILSON:

17 Q. Ms. Rodley, we were discussing a little bit 11:10:18

18 about the -- or I was asking questions about the 11:10:20

19 content of Friends of George's shows, and I just 11:10:24

20 wanted to continue on that line. 11:10:27

21 Ms. Rodley, do Friends of George's shows 11:10:36

22 feature representations or descriptions of 11:10:38

23 masturbation? 11:10:42

24 A. Can you clarify what masturbation is? 11:10:47

25 Because my definition of what that is might be 11:10:49

1 different than yours. 11:10:52
2 Q. What would your definition of that be? 11:10:54
3 A. Well, for me, I'm a woman, so masturbating 11:10:55
4 for me is a little different than masturbating for a 11:10:58
5 male. So for me, you know, my variation of that is 11:11:02
6 probably different than yours. 11:11:05
7 Q. Could we agree that it's touching of the 11:11:10
8 pubic area for male or female? 11:11:13
9 A. But that's subject too; right? Touching how? 11:11:18
10 Q. Let's just say -- 11:11:23
11 A. I could be brushing that area. That's 11:11:25
12 touching. It's not really doing anything; right? 11:11:29
13 So I just need a little bit more clarification of 11:11:33
14 that. 11:11:36
15 Q. Well, let's do this: Let's just -- okay. 11:11:39
16 Well, I guess when I say masturbation for you, what 11:11:45
17 does that entail? 11:11:49
18 A. Well, I'm not going to talk about -- 11:11:50
19 Q. I don't mean it -- sorry. Let me -- I don't 11:11:54
20 mean that personally. 11:11:55
21 A. Okay. 11:11:57
22 Q. So when I say -- 11:11:58
23 A. See, this is the problem here. It's very 11:12:04
24 vague and it can be interpreted in many different 11:12:06
25 levels, which is why we have a problem with this 11:12:09

1 bill. Because you, yourself, are even having a
2 problem right now defining that. This is very
3 subject. It's -- everyone's opinion is different.
4 The gray area is very gray here.

5 Q. So when somebody says "masturbation," what
6 does that make you think?

7 A. I don't think anything. I mean, it's a
8 natural human thing to do, so I don't have an
9 opinion about it.

10 Q. So what is the doing of the masturbation?

11 A. It up to interpretation by the different
12 people. No one is masturbating in our shows.

13 Q. And how do you define masturbation?

14 A. I'm just going based off what I'm hearing
15 from you. No one is doing that at our shows.

16 Q. Do you have a definition of masturbation or
17 what you think of --

18 A. I would ask you for that definition.

19 Q. Well, I'm deposing you today, so --

20 MR. TIMMONS: Robert, I mean, she's
21 asking you to define the terms that you're asking
22 her about. And that is a perfectly legitimate thing
23 to ask. If you don't know what you're asking her,
24 then she can't answer the question.

25 MR. WILSON: Okay. Sure. All right.

1 Well, we will move on to the next question here. 11:13:29
2 BY MR. WILSON:
3 Q. Do Friends of George's show feature 11:13:33
4 representations or descriptions of excretory 11:13:35
5 functions? 11:13:38
6 A. What's that? What's an excretory function? 11:13:39
7 Q. Excretory function. 11:13:44
8 A. What's that? 11:13:45
9 Q. Oh, I thought you said a different word. 11:13:47
10 Say, defecation, pooping, peeing. 11:13:49
11 A. So you're asking if any of our performers are 11:13:55
12 peeing or pooping on stage? 11:13:59
13 Q. Yes. 11:14:02
14 A. That would be a no. I'm a little offended by 11:14:03
15 that, by the way, just so you know. I don't 11:14:09
16 understand how that has anything to do with this. 11:14:10
17 And you've asked a lot of questions about this kind 11:14:13
18 of stuff, and I'm just -- 11:14:16
19 Q. I understand. And I try -- I didn't mean to 11:14:18
20 offend. 11:14:22
21 A. I know you gave me a preface, but I'm just 11:14:23
22 saying, like, you're asking a lot of these over and 11:14:24
23 over again, the same things, and it's, you know, a 11:14:28
24 little repetitive. 11:14:31
25 Q. Do Friends of George's show feature 11:14:37

1 representations or descriptions of a lewd exhibition 11:14:39
2 of genitals? 11:14:43

3 A. What's a lewd exhibition? 11:14:45

4 Q. Let me ask you -- 11:14:53

5 A. I want -- in the very beginning of this, you 11:14:54
6 said to ask questions to make sure that I'm 11:14:55
7 answering -- that's why I'm asking, because I want 11:14:58
8 to make sure I am answering correctly. I am under 11:15:01
9 oath. 11:15:03

10 Q. Sure. Well, let's -- let me rephrase and 11:15:04
11 re-ask. 11:15:06

12 Do Friends of George's show feature an 11:15:07
13 exhibition of male or female genitals? 11:15:09

14 A. Are we talking about -- I'm sorry -- 11:15:13
15 "exhibition," I'm still not sure what you're meaning 11:15:18
16 by that, so I can't answer that. 11:15:24

17 Q. Display. 11:15:25

18 A. Display of an actual penis and an actual 11:15:25
19 breast? 11:15:26

20 Q. Yes. 11:15:26

21 A. Human, actual, not fake, no, we do not. 11:15:26

22 Q. And do Friends of George's shows include 11:15:46
23 fondling or erotic touching of genitals, pubic 11:15:48
24 region, the buttocks, or the female breast? 11:15:51

25 A. So, erotic? I'm confused. Because I could 11:15:57

1 brush somebody by accident and that would 11:16:01
2 technically be defined in what you just said, so I 11:16:02
3 need you to clarify that a little. 11:16:06

4 Q. I suppose, would it be the person who is 11:16:08
5 doing the touching is doing it in erotic. Does that 11:16:11
6 make it more clear? 11:16:15

7 A. So you're asking if somebody is touching 11:16:16
8 somebody else in an erotic way for an arousal or for 11:16:19
9 sexual nature? 11:16:23

10 Q. Yes. 11:16:24

11 A. Everything we do is for comedy, so no. 11:16:25

12 Q. From what we discussed, I've discussed it as 11:16:51
13 productions, but have your performers engaged in any 11:16:54
14 of that conduct during any of the productions? 11:16:57

15 A. Which conduct are we referencing? 11:16:58

16 Q. When I refer to productions, that would 11:17:03
17 include the -- 11:17:07

18 A. The show? 11:17:09

19 Q. And the performers in the show. So they 11:17:10
20 would not be the ones conducting that. 11:17:13

21 A. So what you're -- I'm sorry. I'm just 11:17:15
22 confused here. So you're asking if our performers 11:17:18
23 in one of our shows would do what? 11:17:21

24 Q. I guess for our previous serious of 11:17:25
25 questions, any of that conduct that you have said 11:17:28

1 that Friends of George's production didn't contain. 11:17:30
2 A. Robert, you've asked me several questions, so 11:17:32
3 if you could clarify, please, which exact you're 11:17:35
4 asking. 11:17:38
5 Q. Okay. We will move on to the next questions 11:17:39
6 here. 11:17:49
7 A. Okay. 11:17:49
8 Q. Has Friends of George's ever been charged 11:17:50
9 with violating Tennessee's obscenity laws? 11:17:52
10 A. No. 11:17:55
11 Q. Has any Friends of George's performers been 11:17:56
12 charged with violating Tennessee's obscenity laws? 11:17:58
13 A. No. 11:18:01
14 Q. Has Friends of George's ever been threatened 11:18:09
15 to be charged with violating Tennessee's obscenity 11:18:12
16 laws? 11:18:15
17 A. Well, this bill made it a little nervous for 11:18:16
18 us whether we would or would not, not knowing a lot 11:18:19
19 of gray areas and what the definitions are of that, 11:18:21
20 we are unsure of whether or not we would violate or 11:18:23
21 not violate. That's why we filed the lawsuit. 11:18:26
22 Q. But I guess prior to the lawsuit, did anybody 11:18:30
23 any government official, threaten Friends of 11:18:36
24 George's with enforcement of -- 11:18:40
25 A. No. 11:18:42